

# NUACHT NA CROISE NAOFA



## Céad Míle Fáilte Romhaibh Ar Ais Ar Scoil

At last the day has come and we are all back to school again!

A special welcome to our new Junior Infants, to the new children in other classes and to our newly appointed staff members, Ms.

Sarah Manning (SEN), Ms. Jackie Rainey (Rang 2), Ms Alice

Fogarty (Rang 3), Mr. Stephen Jackson (Rang 1), Ms. Caitriona Finucane (Job Share with Ms Pyne—SEN) and Ms Sinead Lynch (SNA).



We would like to take the opportunity to wish Mr Paul Forristal all the best in his new role as Principal in St. Finians NS, Clonard, Co Westmeath. Our loss is Westmeath's gain!



This is quite a lot of change to our school in just one summer. Fortunately, all members of staff are absolutely committed to maintaining the high standards of care and education in Holy Cross.

As you already know, we have taken every possible measure in as far as we can in keeping everyone safe on our return to school. In general terms this means that there will be five different school doors; we will be sanitising hands regularly; our much enhanced cleaning regime from last year will continue to be in operation both during and after school; and each class will only mix with the children in that class. As you know visitors (including parents) are not allowed into the school without a prior appointment.

In our first week back we will monitor everything very closely and make any adjustments necessary and in line with public health advice.

**Our main aim is to keep everyone safe and to do our very best to ensure that the children and staff have a positive and enriching experience starting back to school.**

In the meantime, please feel free to contact the school office if you need any clarification on any issue or if you have any query or question.

John McGrath

Príomhoide

### Cathy Prunty RIP

The Board of Management wish to offer its sincere condolences to the family of the late Catherine Prunty (O'Keeffe). Catherine was a Community Nominee on the Board of Management of Holy Cross School for the past fourteen years. She attended Holy Cross School and was a member of the Parents' Association whilst her son Eoin attended the school.

She was an organiser of the Family Mass in Holy Cross Parish for a number of years managing "Lemonade Sunday" for families to socialise after the Family Mass and running the Christmas and Easter Childrens' plays. She was a member of the Parish Development Committee which oversaw the upgrade of the Parish Church and building of the Pastoral Centre. She will be a significant loss to our community but most especially to her family and friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam dílis.

Hilary Roche,

Chairperson, Holy Cross Board of Management

### MEABHRÚCHÁIN THÁBHACHTACHA/IMPORTANT REMINDERS:



**School Uniform** – It is very important that the children learn the importance of how to present themselves for school. Please ensure that the children are in the correct uniform every day. Black shoes (i.e. shoes which can be polished – not black runners) should be worn and all hair should be kept out of the eyes with a hair band or clips. Please remember when cold or wet weather arrives, children must wear the School Jacket. The teachers will let the children know on what day they will have PE lessons and will need to wear their track suit.

**Healthy Lunch** – A good guide for lunches is if it's healthy it's in – if it's not, it's out. Please also be mindful of our request that nuts (and spreads containing traces of nuts) not be used in lunches including SESAME SEEDS. Heavily marketed products like Frubes/Dairylea Dunkers are packed with sugar and should not be included in lunch boxes. Again ***a good general rule is that if comes in plastic it is not healthy and should not be included in your child's lunch.***



**Punctuality** – Our new school arrival times give greater flexibility to families. We hope that will mean less pressure in the mornings and that there will be no unaccompanied children in the school yards.

If you are dropping your child to school late please bring him/her to the ***Main Entrance Door (Blue Door) or to the Main Office Door*** and a member of staff will take him/her to the class.

**School Access**—The pedestrian gate at the rear of the school / County council car park will be locked during the school day. The gate will be open for parents at school collection times.

We are asked by our insurance company to remind parents that the school cannot be responsible for children in the school yard outside of school times 8.50am – 1.40pm/2.40pm. Please do not leave your children unattended in the yard.



**Homework** – There will be no home work for the first week at least. This is to help everyone settle back in to school.

**Communication** – If there is any matter causing you concern as a parent/guardian please call the office to make an appointment. Please do not call to the school without a prior appointment.



**Parking and Car Parks** – Please use the car park at the rear of the school if you are driving. The Staff Car Park is for the use of staff only during school hours. Please use the pedestrian gate if you are walking in the front of the school. Pedestrians should under no circumstances use the gate for cars.

**Collecting Children** – If for whatever reason your child must be collected by someone other than yourself or their regular collector please let the school know in advance. Teachers will not hand over a child to someone we do not know.



**Label everything** – books, uniforms, lunchboxes, coats, etc.

**Party Invitations** – As you can understand we are not in a position to help with the distribution of party invitations here at the school. All party invites must be distributed somewhere other than the classroom.

